

**Amendment to the Specification:**

On Page 16, before the last full paragraph, please add the following new paragraph as follows:

Figure 7            -        the hinge device shown in Figure 2  
                                  wherein the spring element has a fluid  
                                  medium.

On Page 25, please amend the last full paragraph as follows:

It is, of course, also possible to configure the spring element 2 in a different form, for example also to bring the adjustment lever 7 into a raised position, in a manner analogous to the manner described above, by means of fluid media which forms a pneumatic element P as shown in Figure 7 of a pneumatic cylinder-operated spring 2'.